

# Equal Rights

VOL. XVII, No. 18  
FIVE CENTS

SATURDAY  
JUNE 6, 1931



Doris Stevens

Chairman of the Inter-American Commission of Women and member of the Consultative Committee of the League of Nations, who was the guest of honor at the final session of the Conference of Party Workers at Alva Belmont House May 31, on the eve of her departure for Geneva, Switzerland. Miss Stevens will attend a meeting of the Consultative Committee in the League of Nations Building, July 2, when recommendations on the nationality of women will be drafted for presentation to the 1931 Assembly of the League.



# Equal Rights



OFFICIAL ORGAN  
of the  
**National Woman's Party**  
Capitol Hill,  
Washington, D. C.  
Phone, Lincoln 1366  
Published Weekly  
at 19 West Chase Street,  
Baltimore, Md.  
Phone, Vernon 3279

Edith Houghton Hooker . . . . . Editor  
Ruby A. Black . . . . . Managing Editor  
Dora G. Ogle . . . . . Business Manager

## ASSOCIATE EDITORS:

|                          |                         |
|--------------------------|-------------------------|
| Nina E. Allender         | Ada Davenport Kendall   |
| Zoe Beckley              | Katherine Leckie        |
| Elaine Sterne Carrington | Hazel MacKaye           |
| Lucia Chamberlain        | Edna St. Vincent Millay |
| Phyllis Duganne          | Ruth Pickering          |
| Ernestine Evans          | Alice Rohe              |
| Rose Feld                | Maryse Rutledge         |
| Zona Gale                | Miriam Finn Scott       |
| Helen Davenport Gibbons  | Doris Stevens           |
| Rebecca Hourwich         | Sophie Treadwell        |
| Ruth Hale                | Brenda Ueland           |
| Inez Haynes Irwin        | Mary Winsor             |

Entered as second-class matter at Postoffice,  
Baltimore, Md., under Act March 3, 1879.

Subscription, \$2.00 a Year

Foreign Subscription, \$2.50

## OFFICERS OF THE WOMAN'S PARTY

President, Mrs. Oliver H. P. Belmont, N. Y.  
Chairman National Council, Mrs. Harvey Wiley, D. C.  
Vice-Chairmen,  
Gall Laughlin, Me.  
Florence Bayard Hilles, Del.  
Anita Pollitzer, S. C.  
Secretary, A. Marguerite Smith, Mass.  
Acting Treasurer, Laura Berrien, D. C.  
Congressional Chairman, Maud Younger, Cal.  
Director of National Activities, Muna Lee.  
Parliamentarian, Emma Fox, Mich.  
Edith Aling, N. Y.  
Alma Lutz, N. Dak.  
Anne Archbold, Me.  
Burnita S. Matthews, Miss.  
Nina E. Allender, D. C.  
Dora G. Ogle, Md.  
Laura Berrien, D. C.  
Alice Paul, N. J.  
Mrs. John W. Braunan, N. Y.  
Sarah Pell, N. Y.  
Mrs. Isaac H. Dixon, Md.  
Elizabeth Selden Rogers, N.Y.  
Bertha W. Fowler, Colo.  
Jane Norman Smith, N. Y.  
Elsie Hill, Conn.  
Doris Stevens, N. Y.  
Inez Haynes Irwin, N. Y.  
Mrs. John Jay White, N. Y.  
Edith Houghton Hooker, Md.  
Margaret Whittemore, Calif.  
Elizabeth T. Kent, Calif.  
Mrs. Valentine Winters, Ohio  
Ruth Vander Lilt, N. Y.  
Maud Younger, Calif.

## MEMBERSHIP OF THE WOMAN'S PARTY

|                          |            |
|--------------------------|------------|
| Annual Dues.....         | \$10.00    |
| Associate Members.....   | \$1.00     |
| Subscribing Members..... | \$3.00     |
| Founders .....           | \$100.00   |
| Life Members.....        | \$1,000.00 |
| Endowers .....           | \$5,000.00 |
| Sustainers .....         | \$5,000.00 |

## OBJECT OF THE WOMAN'S PARTY

The object of this organization shall be to secure for women complete equality with men under the law and in all human relationships.

**THE LUCRETIA MOTT AMENDMENT**  
"Men and women shall have Equal Rights throughout the United States and every place subject to its jurisdiction."

"Congress shall have power to enforce this article by appropriate legislation."

[Senate Joint Resolution Number 52]  
[House Joint Resolution Number 55]

Introduced in the Senate June 4, 1929,  
by SENATOR GERALD P. NYE, North Dakota.

Introduced in the House April 25, 1929,  
by REPRESENTATIVE FREDERICK W. MAGRADY,  
Pennsylvania.

## The Outcome of the Conference

THE outstanding result of the Party Workers' Conference held in Washington, D. C., on May 29-31, is the determination on the part of the rank and file members of the Party to strengthen the organization in the various States. The leaders of the Party have long recognized the fact that a closely-knit organization patterned according to the political units in the various States is essential to the achievement of Feminist ideals. Since the election of women to public office, in equal numbers with men, is one of the immediate objectives of Feminism, it is clear that a non-partisan organization of women ready to throw their support toward suitable women candidates is an essential instrument for success.

The prejudice against women in the political arena is still so strong that Feminists must mass their votes regardless of party affiliation in order to offset it. When both the Democrats and the Republicans learn that a considerable number of women will support qualified women candidates regardless of party labels, they will both be less recalcitrant in placing women on their tickets. But it will take a stern and indubitable lesson to teach the politicians.

As soon as the women voters organize their strength sufficiently to elect a Democratic woman candidate over a Republican man candidate in a Republican stronghold, or vice versa, the politicians will realize the advantage of nominating women and they will mend their ways.

At the present time, save in exceptional instances, a woman candidate is, on account of her sex, a liability rather than an asset, politically speaking. The woman may be vastly superior to the man so far as ability, integrity and general suitability for public office is concerned, but she is not so good a candidate just the same, for most men and some women are reluctant to vote for a woman on account of her sex. It is this age-old prejudice that blocks the way to women's entrance into elective and appointive office, and the only way to overcome it is for women to double up their votes in support of their own sex. Men vote in the main according to their party affiliation, and by and large they tolerate only the nomination of men. Each man casts one ballot for his party's nominees. Now if women, even ten per cent. of the women, will vote for suitable Equal Rights candidates, regardless of party affiliation, they can make their ballots count two to one for Feminism, and give the politicians the lesson that they so vitally need.

Fighting fire with fire is the oldest and most successful device known to man for checking the spread of a consuming blaze. This method women must use to check the consuming prejudice which election after election has devastated their political hopes.

In the course of the Conference these facts were stressed by various speakers, with the result that many new volunteers were secured for direct organization work.

## The Story of David

DAVID was born to Mrs. Mary T. Denman, able lawyer and representative from Westmoreland County to the Pennsylvania Legislature, on April 2, the day after she had returned from the weekly session in Harrisburg. One day Easter holiday intervened and two weeks later Mrs. Denman returned hale and hearty and resumed her usual duties in the Legislature, having missed four and half days of the session.

By a unanimous vote of the House a telegram of congratulation was sent to Mr. and Mrs. Denman, and David A. Denman, Jr., was made "the 209th member of the House of Representatives of the 61st Pennsylvania Legislature, *without amendments*," and was presented with a handsome silver cup and a nest egg in the savings bank by his colleagues as a mark of appreciation for his punctuality and consideration for his mother.

EQUAL RIGHTS also appreciates David's exemplary behavior and is sending him a letter of congratulation on the wisdom he showed in the selection of his parents. In addition his name has been added to our list of honorary subscribers.

As a charming and modern episode the advent of David surpasses everything in our experience. It is, we hope, a sign of the times marking the commencement of a new era for motherhood. Mrs. Denman is twice blessed in having both a useful career and a son, and she is thrice blessed in having a husband who believes in the full life for women as well as for men.

As a commentary on the undesirability of arbitrary laws restricting the right of women to work for a certain period of time before and after childbirth, the story of David is replete with significance.

## Proceedings of the Conference

FIVE resolutions embodying national and international demands for equality were unanimously adopted at the closing session of the Party Workers' Conference of the National Woman's Party Sunday afternoon, May 31, at the Dodge Hotel in Washington.

Equal Rights to work, Equal Rights to nationality, equal representation in political parties and a greater recognition in the Government service for women at the hands of the President of the United States and other national and State officials were demanded in the resolutions, a complete draft of which is published elsewhere in this issue.

How this goal of justice and equality for women is to be reached and practical means whereby the day of freedom can be hastened were the subjects of the earlier sessions which opened Saturday morning in the Garden House of the Dodge Hotel.

Mrs. Harvey W. Wiley, chairman of the National Council of the National Woman's Party, called the first session to order at half-past ten Saturday morning, saying:

"Today is Memorial Day, a day set apart originally in most of the States to decorate the graves of our Civil War dead. Now we consecrate this day by decorating the graves of all our heroes of every war. I would not be here had I not reverently attended to this sad rite yesterday at Arlington and at the National Cemetery where my beloved dead lie sleeping.

"America, whatever, our critics may say, it seems to me is a nation of idealists, the greatest nation of idealists on earth and these sacred dead lie in their hallowed graves because each held an ideal of country or of law for which he lived and died bravely.

"The ideal of this organization, the National Woman's Party, is justice for women, before the law and in custom and the development of character in women by placing in their own hands the full responsibility for the conduct of their lives.

"Since this is a new idea to which no other organization is completely devoted, and since we can not hope to achieve this ideal without divine aid, I would ask you to pause for a moment while I make a short petition:

"O Lord, we beseech Thee to let Thy continual guidance strengthen the work of this organization, because it cannot continue in wisdom without Thy succor. Preserve it evermore by Thy Help and goodness. Through Jesus Christ our Lord.

"Our program reads, 'Address of Welcome by a Representative of the National Capitol.' We are, indeed, fortunate that this welcome is to be given by one who is identified not only with the interests of women everywhere, but who is also

particularly identified with the interests of the National Capitol at the present time. Our official hostess was the president of the General Federation of Women's Clubs from 1924 to 1928, and is now Presidential Commissioner of the George Washington Bicentennial Commission. I take pleasure in introducing to you Mrs. John Dickinson Sherman, who will give you a greeting."

MRS. SHERMAN then made the address of welcome to the visiting delegates and described in some detail the plans of the George Washington Bicentennial Commission. After assuring Mrs. Sherman that the Woman's Party would co-operate with the Commission in every way, and after thanking Mrs. Sherman for her charming welcome, Mrs. Wiley said:

"It is interesting to know that our official hostess is now chairman of the Department of the American Home of the General Federation of Women's Clubs. As leader of this great department, Mrs. Sherman's first endeavor was to promote religious training in the home. And in this effort I am sure she has the hearty co-operation of every right thinking woman in the country.

In her pamphlet, entitled 'Religious Training in the Home,' it is brought out that parents teach by example and that basic religious virtues may be taught better by conduct than by precept. On this point the guiding principle of the National Woman's Party is of importance. Our organization believes that the finest conduct toward women in the home and in society is that attitude that accords to them ability to think and to decide for themselves what is best for them in their own lives. Not to have laws and regulations thought out by others and put over on them without their consent. Not the kind of chivalry which in its protective attitude implies inferiority. The National Woman's Party believes that every normal adult human being should help carry the full burden and enjoy the full privileges of citizenship. We come into the world alone and we go out alone. In the other world sex will be forgotten and only our personalities will persist made strong through struggle, patient by endurance and beautiful by the amount we have been able to do for others. We ask for Equal Rights for all and special privileges for none.

"This is a workers' conference called together here for the purpose of discussing organization methods and of strengthening our organization thereby."

Mrs. Wiley then turned the meeting over to Edith Houghton Hooker of Maryland, who emphasized the necessity of unflinching work if women are to realize their

ideals of justice and equality. Mrs. Hooker, chairman of the Woman's Party in Maryland, presided over the business session, at which workers from the various States described the methods they had found most successful in bringing about reform and winning recruits to the Woman's Party.

America with its boasted freedom should be the pace-setter in the movement for equality, said Mrs. Hooker. American women owe a responsibility to the women of the rest of the world.

With the ballot, women in this country have a powerful machine but it has been running in neutral. It should be thrown into high gear. With the prevailing discontent and dangerous corruption in politics, women are needed to do their proverbial housecleaning. Men have done so little with their vote that women must go them one better.

Mrs. Robert Hudson, chairman of the Virginia Branch of the Woman's Party, spoke next, describing methods of organizing women in her State. The advisability of keeping members active and of appointing as many as possible to offices to give them a feeling of responsibility was stressed by Mrs. Hudson.

Roma N. Hawkins, executive secretary of the Massachusetts Branch, told of giving a series of Feminist radio talks and of reaching by this means people who had never before heard of the Woman's Party. She also reported the legislative activities of the Massachusetts group as well as a moving picture benefit at which \$200 was raised for the relief of unemployed women and their children.

Florence Elizabeth Kennard, executive secretary of the Maryland Branch, described work recently done in her State for the equality of women. Among other Feminist activities, she cited the service rendered by the Business and Professional Women's organization in overcoming discrimination against women teachers by a Maryland school board.

Faith Binkley, delegate from Florida, who began stump speaking for Equal Rights as a child, spoke with regret of the inequalities existing in her State. She said that recently women in Florida were manifesting a greater interest in demanding their rights but that this interest was still unorganized. In listing the abuses which have been allowed to persist, Miss Binkley cited the State bastardy law which provides that the father of an illegitimate child shall contribute less than \$5.00 a month to its upkeep. Another case in point is the practice among some families of marrying off 15-year-old girls to relieve the economic burden.

Ella Riegel, legislative chairman of the Pennsylvania Branch, described the fight to abolish discriminations against women

in the laws of her State. While regretting that the Woman's Party in Pennsylvania had failed to put through any of the bills endorsed by it this year, she noted that progress had been made in rallying other women's organizations to the banner of equality. This year bills endorsed by the Woman's Party have received the support of the W. C. T. U., the League of Women Voters, the Federation of Women's Clubs, and the Business and Professional Women's organization, while in the past, the Woman's Party was opposed in every move by other women's organizations.

Mrs. Hereford Dugan, legislative chairman for Indiana, reported the growing interest in the Woman's Party in that midwestern State.

Mrs. Legare O'Bear of Madison, Georgia, reported that the women of Georgia seem inclined to protective legislation. She expressed the hope, however, that all discrimination would be abolished in the new State Constitution of Georgia which is being drawn up to be submitted to the legislature.

Mrs. Paul M. Linebarger, chairman of the District of Columbia Branch, said that the work of the local branch in the capital is largely merged with the work of the National Council and is largely social. An international importance was attributed to the social activities of the Woman's Party in Washington, however, by Mrs. Harvey W. Wiley, who added a few words of congratulation to Mrs. Linebarger's report. For by entertaining distinguished foreign women and acquainting them with the Feminist work being done, the women of Washington are sending out ambassadors carrying the ideas of Equal Rights throughout the world.

Concluding the morning program, Dora Ogle presided at a forum discussion of the value of EQUAL RIGHTS to workers of the Woman's Party. The opinion was unanimously expressed that the magazine is an invaluable aid in spreading the doctrine of Feminism and that it should be given wider circulation to promote the interests of women. To this end Mrs. Linebarger was made chairman of a committee to raise funds for the distribution of EQUAL RIGHTS to business and professional women's organizations in the States where the Woman's Party is not organized to fight for equality in work.

An informal luncheon in the Dodge Hotel followed the morning session. Laura Berrien was toastmistress, introducing Sarah Grogan and Mrs. W. K. Morley, who spoke briefly.

The business session over which Mrs. Hooker again presided was continued in the afternoon with reports from representatives of other organizations.

Edith C. Salisbury, a member of the governing board of Zonta, described the methods which this organization has used successfully in building up membership.

Mrs. Hereford Dugan, of Indianapolis,

discussed the lack of recognition given women Democrats by the Democratic Party of her State; and Helen Elizabeth Brown, of Baltimore, further demonstrated the small recognition given Republican women in Maryland by Maryland Republicans.

With the close of the business session of Saturday, visiting delegates were taken on a sightseeing tour of Washington which ended at the Alva Belmont House. Here at the National Headquarters of the Woman's Party on Capitol Hill, they were greeted by Mrs. Paul M. Linebarger, District chairman and other District officers.

The necessity of endless publicity to keep alive to the public the issue of women's rights was stressed by Muna Lee, director of national activities, at the round table discussion on publicity methods held Sunday morning at Alva Belmont House.

To this end, Miss Lee urged, the papers should be continually scanned for instances of discrimination against women and these discriminations should be protested by the National Woman's Party.

**R**UTH ALLISON HUDNUT, author, presided over the discussion in which prominent newspaper women gave practical hints about the best methods of securing more publicity for the cause of women. For instance, Ruth Jones, society editor of the *Washington Herald*, dispelled the common illusion that society editors want long lists of names to fill their columns. She is convinced that nobody reads such lists and that organizations profit more by occasional news stories of society events than by endless repetition of routine announcements.

What the big out-of-town newspapers require in the way of news was discussed by Winifred Mallon, correspondent for the *New York Times*. She suggested that publicity writers would help themselves and correspondents when sending long releases if they would tell the principal news in a sentence at the top of the story. Because of the great bulk of printed matter with which the correspondent is deluged and the limitations of time, stories prefaced by such a summary are more likely to receive the attention they deserve.

Action is the basic essential of a news story and unless opinion is tied up with action in some way, it is valueless to the editor, said Miss Mallon in explaining why some stories submitted by organizations are not printed in the papers. For the public ultimately decides what newspapers print and, in due consideration to human nature, editors can not use stories which only tell people what they should do.

Bess Furnham of the Associated Press spoke of what newspapers do and do not want in press handouts. She said that

in view of the barrels of publicity continually pouring into editorial offices, the short and snappy handout is appreciated by reporter and editor alike and receives the most consideration. She cited as a classic example of brevity, the sentence handout of Calvin Coolidge, "I do not choose to run for President in 1928," and in part attributed the tremendous publicity that followed to the relief of the press at receiving such a direct statement.

Martha Strayer, president of the Women's National Press Club and reporter of the *Washington News*, said that editors developed a sixth sense which told them when a handout was bona fide news and when it was the attempt of "publicity hounds" to impose on the newspaper. In her opinion, the quality of the publicity released by the National Woman's Party in recent years has improved since the early days after the passage of the Suffrage Amendment.

Mildred Kahler Geare of the *Baltimore News-American* said that two obstacles tend to keep women from getting more space in the papers for news important to women. One is the attitude of editors who still speak of women's organizations as "Our Club Sisters," and the other is the ignorance of many club publicity chairmen of the basic essentials of news. However, Mrs. Geare complimented the efficiency of the publicity workers of the National Woman's Party in Baltimore and Washington.

May Elizabeth Craige, Washington correspondent for a group of Maine papers, emphasized the importance of providing a local angle to stories for out-of-town correspondents. If conventions, for instance, would list their delegates by States, the correspondent in Washington would be enabled to send out stories to local State papers, thus providing publicity which would otherwise be lost.

The final business session, held early Sunday afternoon, was devoted to a discussion of the need for organizing women to political action. The speakers included Emilie A. Doetsch and Ida I. Klose. The resolutions were also presented at this session by Dora Ogle of Maryland, chairman of the Resolutions Committee. Burnita Shelton Matthews, chairman of the Lawyers' Council of the Woman's Party, presided.

A reception honoring Doris Stevens, chairman of the Inter-American Commission of Women, held late Sunday afternoon at Alva Belmont House, was the closing event of the conference. Other honored guests were Herminia A. de Davila, wife of the Chilean Ambassador and Oliveira de Lima, representative of Brazil on the Inter-American Commission of Women.

Miss Stevens spoke feelingly of the injustices which are still being perpetrated

against women but prophesized that these ancient prejudices and discriminations can not survive long in face of the accomplishments of modern women. The

text of Miss Stevens' speech which was broadcast over the National Broadcasting chain outlines the ideals of freedom and equality in defense of which she is soon

going to Geneva to attend the first meeting of the League of Nations Nationality Committee for Women, of which she was recently appointed a member.

## Doris Stevens' Speech at the Conference

INTRODUCING Doris Stevens, who spoke over a nation-wide hook-up of the National Broadcasting Company from Alva Belmont House at the final session of the Conference of Party Workers on Sunday, May 31, Laura Berrien said:

"We of the National Woman's Party are gathered here, women from all parts of these United States, in the beautiful garden of Alva Belmont House, at the end of a three-day conference in which we met to consider the condition of women in our own country and of women throughout the world.

"We have considered the progress made toward equality between men and women; and we have considered the work yet to be done in order that men and women shall have Equal Rights throughout the United States and every place subject to its jurisdiction. Solemnly, but happily, we accept our part in the great world-wide revolution which must bring equality to men and women in all departments of life.

"Within a few days Doris Stevens leaves us to go to Geneva. Her entire adult life, and more, for she began suffrage work as a slip of a girl, has been devoted to the cause of freedom. Her untiring and brilliant work in the United States, in Latin America and in Europe has made her name known and loved wherever men and women aspire to greater freedom. She goes to join her illustrious and loved colleague, Alice Paul, where they too will participate with women of other organizations in a most momentous conference. By authority I speak for the National Woman's Party and the Nationality Committee of the Inter-American Commission of Women, and I venture to speak for men and women everywhere, lovers of justice, when I bid her God-speed on her mission. I now present to this nation-wide audience Doris Stevens, chairman of the Inter-American Commission of Women."

Doris Stevens then spoke as follows:

"A LITTLE more than ten years ago, at the end of a horrible war, the men of many nations of the world came together in Versailles to write a charter for a new world order.

"Now you will remember that both men and women had suffered the disaster of the war. And yet men alone were framing the new world charter. There were no women among the negotiators after that disaster.

"There were some women, however, outside the Versailles Conference, demanding equal treatment henceforth between men and women in the new charter which the late warriors were writing. A crumb was given them. The League covenant undertook to guarantee rights of millions of men throughout Africa, the South Sea Islands, and Eastern Europe. All it did for women was to open to women positions within the League itself, and a few women have taken part in the work of the League.

"Now one of the first things undertaken by these men who were too busy building a new order to bother with the rights of women was the planning of a code of world law which would embrace all nations. Peoples all over the world, whatever their race or color or creed, have certain basic needs and aspirations in common. And these needs, the men believed, ought to be satisfied by one great code of law.

"Now this, it seemed to us, was an admirable and beautiful undertaking. But again women found they were not to be consulted. Committees were formed to outline proposals for the new law. Not a woman was included on any of the committees. Not a word as to what kind of law they would like to live under. Is it not strange how men see women about them day in and day out, sharing all their problems and difficulties; but when it comes to planning the future of the world in which both men and women must live, you would think women had no more relation to the world than if they were floating around fifty thousand feet up in the stratosphere in balloons like Mr. Piccard's.

"These men worked at their plans for a new world code for ten years. Finally a conference was called under the auspices of the League of Nations. This time women hoped in their inexhaustible optimism that they would be permitted to have an authoritative voice, especially since their nationality was to be codified with men's. Therefore, Miss Betty Gram, on behalf of the National Woman's Party, and I, as chairman of the Inter-American Commission of Women, went to Geneva to ask the League to urge the governments to send women, as well as men, to this conference. The Assembly generously agreed to this idea and passed a resolution to that effect. A few governments, including the United States, acted favorably on the suggestion.

"But were these women given an authoritative voice? I can best answer that

by telling you a true story of what happened at that conference when it was finally held. One of the women alternates in a certain European delegation actually came to us of the Inter-American Commission of Women, who were complete outsiders at the conference, to beg us to plead with the chief of her delegation to permit her to say a few words from the floor on behalf of equal treatment for men and women in nationality. Her chief's answer to this was a reprimand to her for her temerity in exposing to us that he had refused to grant her mild request.

"But I am getting ahead of my story. Why was it important that women concern themselves with their nationality? Simply because it is as important to women as it is to men. It is one of the most precious rights of all persons.

"And so it was that many women leaders went last year to this conference at The Hague to try to persuade the 47 nations assembled there that equal treatment for men and women in nationality must be a basic principle of the new order. Unhappily they met with this same hostility to women's right to equal treatment, which always saddens women afresh each time they encounter it.

"It was such a little thing we were asking! We wanted the same right to keep or change our nationality that our brothers enjoy. We wanted the same right to affect the nationality of our children that our brothers enjoy. It will seem incredible to you, as it still does to us; but this simple and fair demand was rejected. Instead, the international agreement which the conference adopted contained various discriminations against women.

"When this international agreement became known to women, women from all over the world protested to the League against what had been done under its auspices. Women from Asia, from the Americas, and from Europe, literally from the round corners of the globe, protested. How nice it would be if these things were done right in the first place, and we did not have to spend so much precious energy protesting after the act is done.

"However, the protest resulted in a two-fold concession by the League. First, the subject of the nationality of women has been reopened and placed for discussion on the agenda of the 1931 Assembly, which, as you know, will meet next September; and secondly, a committee of women representing eight of the foremost

international women's organizations has been created by the Council of the League to make recommendations to the Assembly upon what women want in the world code concerning their own nationality. The creation of this committee by the Council of the League is, you must realize, of profound significance. It is the first time that the League in the eleven years of its existence has formed a committee of women to advise upon a matter of particular interest to women.

"I want you to know that but for the devoted and unselfish labors of that American saint, Alice Paul, beloved leader of women, this committee would never have been created. At sacrifices of which people will never know, she has stayed in Geneva throughout the past year to bring this to pass. Women everywhere are her debtors.

"It is gratifying to say that the League officials have co-operated most generously and most courteously with her.

"Among the eight international organizations comprising this committee is the Inter-American Commission of Women, which Miss Paul and I will represent. This committee will meet on July 2 in the League of Nations building in Geneva to draw up recommendations on the nationality of women. These recommendations will be submitted to the Assembly of the League in September.

"Among our colleagues on this committee will be some of the most distinguished women of Europe and Asia; a member of the Dutch Parliament; one of France's most eminent lawyers; a leader among university women of the world; Jerusalem's most brilliant Feminist; an Indian patriot from Madras; a young and beautiful government official from Yugoslavia. It is thrilling to know that these women are coming from all over the world to make equality a reality in international Feminism.

"This meeting will be a symbol of women's determination that not only on nationality, but on every other subject which shall touch their status no inequality will be tolerated in the new world code. This meeting is a fair and friendly warning that any attempt to deal unequally with men and women will have to face the indignant protest of women.

"We have just had a concrete and shocking incident showing how grievous a wrong may be done to a woman when nationality laws are unjust to her.

"Perhaps many of you read in the papers recently of the deportation of Lillian Larsh from Detroit to Canada. Lillian Larsh is a native-born American woman. She has four girls, three of whom were born in the United States and the eldest of whom is eleven years old. She is the widow of a Canadian citizen. At the time of her marriage to this Canadian the United States law compelled her to lose her American nationality and to become a Canadian. I am happy to say that this law has, through the efforts of women, since been abolished. As the United States law now stands, Lillian Larsh has the right to apply for the restoration of her American nationality. But she is poor and uneducated, and no one told her that this was possible. The Department of Labor simply deported her as an undesirable alien, sending her to her dead husband's country where she has no friends and no kin. She has been unable to support herself and her four children in the United States. She is even more helpless in a country foreign to her. Her native country did not want her because she was a victim of cruel poverty. For this very reason she needs her country's protection more than if she were self-sustaining. There she sits, in Canada, a native-born American woman, with her four small children, public charges, unwanted by Canada. It seems it will take

a special act of Congress to get her home again. Never in the history of this country could this have happened to a native-born American man because he had married a foreign woman.

"As I said, this case has revealed the shocking unfairness to women in unequal laws; but even if there had never been a Lillian Larsh, nor any other case of disaster, such as hers, because the law had deprived a woman of her nationality without her consent, still such a law ought never to have existed in our country, and ought not be permitted to exist anywhere in the whole world. On principle such inequality is unjust and must go.

"And so we are going forth to Geneva in a fresh endeavor to send this just principle on its way to adoption.

"It becomes harder each day for men to ignore the great strides which women are making in spite of men's resistance. It strikes me as strangely incongruous that when we shall soon see, for instance, a woman, Ruth Nichols, fly alone through the heavens across the Atlantic, that women should still have to plead to be considered responsible enough to direct the law of their own nationality. Ruth Nichols' glorious exploit stirs all our hearts. The ancient prejudices and discriminations against women cannot long survive in any realm of life in the face of such accomplishments. Smashing records and smashing old, outworn laws is all of a piece.

"And so, as I take leave of my colleagues from various parts of the country here today in Washington, assembled in a national conference, I want to assure them that Alice Paul and I, on behalf of the Inter-American Commission of Women, will do our utmost to repudiate inequality in nationality, and demand that the new code of law shall guarantee equally the rights of men and the rights of women."

## The Conference Banquet

A LONG array of hard-won victories and difficult objectives still to be reached in the ceaseless fight for justice and equality for women was reviewed by the brilliant company of speakers at the banquet of the Party Workers' Conference of the Woman's Party on the evening of Decoration Day in the Dodge Hotel in Washington.

Ruth Hale, founder of the Lucy Stone League, was toastmistress for the occasion, presiding with delightful informality. She prefaced her introduction of the speakers with the remark that not knowing what sort of speeches were expected and seeing such happy faces, she supposed congratulations were in order for the distance women had "got," which she didn't consider very far.

This opinion was challenged by Virginia White Speel, Republican National Committee-woman, who was the first speaker.

"Women as women have advanced far," said Mrs. Speel. "Great movements are of slow growth. By and by the thing that you had thought a beautiful dream has become a reality.

"It is a good thing to have to strive. Work is the salvation of the world. Great honor to you women, working for what you believe. I want you to know that when I can serve you, I will serve you, and as long as what some people term my 'influence' lasts I will continue to serve you."

Roma Hawkins, executive secretary of the Massachusetts Branch, told of the fight the Woman's Party was making in

her State to establish the right of a woman to have women serve on the jury trying her case. Notwithstanding that the State law grants the right of jury service to any "person" qualified to vote, women of Massachusetts have not been granted this right and the Woman's Party is seeking to force a decision through a test case.

Owing to the expense of the litigation and the benefits that may accrue in other States from this Feminist fight in Massachusetts, Mrs. Hawkins expressed the hope that workers in different parts of the country would be interested to the extent of contributing to the common cause.

Helen Elizabeth Brown, lawyer and president of the Woman's Bar Association in Baltimore, urged the necessity of wom-

en's uniting in politics and in business to demand the rights which would otherwise be denied them.

The right of women to work a 24-hour day, if necessary, at the most exhausting labor, in the kitchen or in the fields, was never questioned until women received a pay envelope, according to Miss Brown. Only after women began to be paid for their labor did their long hours of work become a danger to future generations and a subject for protective legislation.

But since women are being paid for their toil they are being protected out of their jobs. And in the period of economic depression the slogan seems to be, "If there is any starving to be done, let it be the women and children first."

Turning to the discussion of women in politics, Miss Brown said that women could not hope for an intelligent solution of their problems from either party.

"Women have received the shabbiest sort of treatment from Mr. Hoover," said Miss Brown. "I speak as one who voted for him and believed he meant what he said in the campaign about wanting representation for women."

"No woman is in the cabinet, yet I could name half a dozen women capable of filling the position. No woman is heading any of the commissions. Women are said

to have 41 per cent. of the wealth of this country and to have the responsibility of spending 72 per cent. of the money, yet not one woman was called to Washington to participate in the conferences for financial readjustment.

"I want hereafter to contribute my vote to justice to women and am willing to give it to a Democrat, Republican, Socialist or Bolshevik, whoever will best serve the cause of women."

Rebekah Greathouse, Assistant District Attorney for the District of Columbia, spoke of the great need for more women in public office. Getting the vote was the first step of progress for women, and the second should be to make women 50 per cent. of the Government personnel.

Nina Allender, artist, discussed the position of women in the field of art. In her opinion discriminations do not operate in this field. Women have proven their ability in art and no art jury or board of literary critics would reject a creative work simply because it was done by a woman.

If, of course, any sense of inferiority exists in the mind of the woman artist, she dooms herself to a second place. But that is true in any endeavor and women must overcome the attitude of patience

and resignation which consigns them to an inferior position, according to the belief of this Feminist.

Doris Stevens, internationally known Feminist worker, was next called upon to make an impromptu speech. She seized upon Mrs. Allender's objection to patience in women, saying:

"I am appalled at the patience of women. Patience ceases to be a virtue. That women should in this day, when Ruth Nichols is about to fly the Atlantic, still be obliged to plead with men for their simplest rights, shows that they have borne injustice too long."

Vivian Simpson, attorney of Maryland, concluded the banquet program of speeches. She objected to the sob stories told and written about the hardships which women lawyers must undergo.

If a woman fails in the practice of law, it is probably for the same reason that a man fails in the practice of law—that she is not good enough or does not work hard enough, in the opinion of Miss Simpson. As far as the profession is concerned, women are treated practically as if they were men, but if a woman loses a case, it is easy for her to say, "It's because I'm a woman," instead of admitting the real reason, which probably is that she did not work hard enough.

## Conference Adopts Resolutions

### RESOLUTION No. I

WHEREAS an International Labor Conference is now being held in Geneva, and is considering a revision of the convention barring women from working at night, and

WHEREAS it was recently announced by the Department of Labor that a representative would attend from the United States to support the continuance of the international convention excluding women from paid night work, and

WHEREAS labor regulations imposing restrictions upon women's rights to work, but not upon man's right are wrong in principal, and

WHEREAS two-thirds of the States of this country allow night work to women as well as men, thus evidencing that the barring of night work to women is a minority point of view in the United States; now, therefore be it

*Resolved*, That the National Woman's Party while not opposed to participation by the United States in international labor conferences expresses itself as opposed to any representative, man or woman, who supports legislation handicapping women's economic advancement; and be it further

*Resolved*, That the National Woman's Party congratulates the Secretary of the Department of Labor upon his decision to withdraw from the conference the repre-

sentative committed to discriminations against women.

Resolutions Unanimously Adopted at the Closing Session of the Patry Workers' Conference of the National Woman's Party, Sunday Afternoon, May 31. Dora G. Ogle, Chairman of the Resolutions Committee, and Burnita Shelton Matthews Drafted the Resolutions.

### RESOLUTION No. II

WHEREAS The Hague Conference on the Codification of International Law, held under the auspices of the League of Nations in March and April, 1930, adopted a convention on nationality containing discriminations against women, and

WHEREAS said discriminatory convention has not as yet been ratified by any country; now, therefore be it

*Resolved*, That the National Woman's Party of the United States calls upon women of the American Republics to unite as the women of Europe and Asia have united in preventing the ratification by their respective countries of the nationality convention discriminating against women adopted at The Hague in 1930 and to urge their governments to work for a nationality convention embracing equality between men and women; and be it further

*Resolved*, That a copy of this resolution

be sent to the diplomatic representatives from these countries to the United States informing them of this action and asking them to communicate this information to their governments.

### RESOLUTION No. III

WHEREAS The Hague Conference on the Codification of International Law held under the auspices of the League of Nations in March and April, 1930, adopted a convention on nationality containing discriminations against women, and

WHEREAS the League has formed a committee of women to make recommendations on the nationality of women to be submitted to the Assembly of the League at its 1931 session; now, therefore be it

*Resolved*, That the National Woman's Party of the United States requests the Women's Consultative Committee on Nationality created by the League of Nations to urge the repudication of the Nationality Convention discriminating against women, adopted in 1930, and to work for a nationality convention eliminating all distinctions based on sex.

### RESOLUTION No. IV

WHEREAS the United States Department of Labor recently deported to Canada Mrs. Lillian Larsh, a penniless widow who was born in Michigan and who had been deprived of her United

States citizenship by reason of her marriage to an alien and who was not informed that she might regain her United States citizenship, and

WHEREAS such an injustice should be prevented in the future; now, therefore be it

*Resolved*, That this conference of the National Woman's Party instruct its Lawyers' Council to continue its investigations of the legal aspects of the case with a view to securing humane consideration at the hands of the Labor Department for women in similar cases; and be it further

*Resolved*, That the National Woman's Party supports at the coming session of Congress legislation:

*First*, to restore on request United

States citizenship to women who have been deprived of it without their consent and solely because of marriage, and

*Second*, to prohibit the Labor Department from deporting any native-born woman who has become an alien by marriage.

#### RESOLUTION No. V

WHEREAS women represent one-half of society and should participate equally with men in the direction of government, national, State and local, and

WHEREAS women have always been and will continue to be on an equal plane with men in governmental responsibilities and obligations, and

WHEREAS women's great contribution has received from the major political par-

ties now in control of the national, State and local governments only scant recognition consisting principally of a few appointments to honorary commissions, unpaid positions, auxiliary committees, and subordinate posts of a minor nature; now, therefore be it

*Resolved*, That the National Woman's Party calls upon all political parties to accord to women greater recognition in party councils, party recommendations and nominations; be it further

*Resolved*, That the National Woman's Party likewise calls upon the President, Cabinet officers and all heads of departments of the United States, the governors of 48 States and the Commissioners of the District of Columbia to give greater recognition to women in governmental service.

## Feminist Notes

### Another Mayor

SINCE May 4 there has been another woman mayor in this country, Phenie Ownby, Democrat, of Broken Arrow, Oklahoma. She took over the management of her picturesquely named city on that date and now sits at the head of a council of eight men. She is 48 years old, the mother of three children, and a political pioneer in a pioneer country.

### Intellectual Co-operation

TWO women, Helene Vacaresco of Roumania and Nini Roll-Anker of Norway, have been appointed members of the Committee on Arts and Letters organized by the International Committee on Intellectual Co-operation of the League of Nations.

Mlle. Vacaresco is a poet and Mme. Roll-Anker an author.

### Cotton Grower

IN COMPETITION with 943 other farmers, most of them men, Mrs. C. H. Mathis of Blackville, South Carolina, won the coveted first prize of \$500 in the 1930 State-wide South Carolina cotton-growing contest. She turned in a record of 5,250 pounds of lint cotton grown on only five acres. What couldn't she do with a large farm?

## News from the Field

### A South African Dilemma

ENGELA LYON of Cape Town, South Africa, who with her husband, George Wood Lyon, is making a tour of the world, was a recent interesting caller at Alva Belmont House.

Mrs. Lyon was formerly president of the Women's Enfranchisement League of the Cape Province of South Africa, a league which passed triumphantly out of existence with the granting of woman suffrage in Cape Province on April 30, 1931. She is now on the executive committee of the Women's Nationalist Party. Mrs. Lyon reports that each of the four provinces in South Africa have a different kind of franchise for women, and that in her own province suffrage came before the House eighteen times before its final successful passage.

As the wife of a citizen of the United States, married under the old law, she has American citizenship. If she had been married during the past few months, she would have no citizenship at all, since a South African woman loses her British nationality upon marriage to an alien. Commenting upon her case, the Cape Town *Argus*, after giving Mrs. Lyon great credit for the winning of the vote, adds:

"She herself nevertheless remains voteless, for being married to an American citizen she is an alien. Her own case is one of the most striking object lessons for

the need of a change in the laws regarding the nationality of women married to foreigners."

### Charming Gift

MRS. HEREFORD DUGAN, legislative chairman for Indiana, who took an active part in the Party Workers' Conference, left a delightful token of her visit to Alva Belmont House in the form of a bed of box shrubs from Mary Washington's garden in Fredericksburg.

Ordered by Mrs. Hereford by long distance on the eve of the conference, the thrifty plants arrived and were in place when the delegates arrived.

The box is especially suitable to the lovely old Georgian headquarters, and many of those who have visited the house since these specimens were set out have commented upon the charming appropriateness of the gift.

### Porto Rican Member Participates

MADIE HAYDEN of San Juan, Porto Rico, an active member of the National Woman's Party, made her first visit to national headquarters during the Party Workers' Conference. Mrs. Hayden, a Virginian by birth, has lived for a number of years in Porto Rico, where she has become identified with insular affairs.

She reports that Governor Theodore Roosevelt has given emphatic expression

on many occasions to the necessity for an equal nationality law for men and women.

### Gallatin Memorial

MEMBERS of the National Woman's Party have shown great interest in the proposed memorial to Albert Gallatin, Secretary of the Treasury from 1801 to 1814, for which about \$20,000 has already been subscribed. Alva Belmont House, national headquarters of the Woman's Party, was the residence of Albert Gallatin, statesman, diplomat and financier, during the administration of Thomas Jefferson, and during his occupancy he acted as host to Lafayette.

The memorial is to take the form of a statue of Albert Gallatin on the steps of the Treasury Building at Washington, alongside the Alexander Hamilton statue. Congress has appropriated \$10,000 for the site and \$50,000 is to be raised by popular subscription. Among the list so far are Charles H. Sabin, Mrs. Henry P. Davison, Sir T. Ashley Sparks, and H. Pendleton Rogers. J. E. Fraser, sculptor of the Alexander Hamilton statue, has been retained to execute the memorial.

### DAY PRINTING COMPANY

PUBLICATIONS AND BOOKS

600 East Lombard Street  
Baltimore, Md.